# **UST Cleanup and Redevelopment:**A Local Government Perspective

## Andrew Bracker City of Kansas City, Missouri

Nuts & Bolts of Redeveloping Brownfields (and Other Contaminated Properties) for Local Government



August 28, 2007

#### A Kansas City Perspective

>UST Sites:

The nature of the problem

>USTFields Pilot:

News from the "trenches"

Redevelopment



## PETROLEUM STORAGE TANK INSURANCE FUND (PSTIF)

- Up to \$1,000,000 per site for subsurface cleanup
- Excludes tank removal, disposal, demolition & \$10,000 deductible
- Must have been registered or known to state before 12/31/97
- MRBCA Tanks Fund Solvency!



Local Government Sites:

The Nature of the Problem

- Lack of ownership/control
- Lack of Resources
- Unregistered/unregulated "Mom & Pop" Sites
- Aesthetic and economic blight
- Difficult to redevelop:
  - Small size
  - Low value
  - High transaction costs
  - Little developer interest



#### **USTFields Pilot**

- > \$100,000 EPA Pilot (one of ten initial Pilots)
- > Partnership:
  - EPA Region VII RCRA UST/LUST program
  - Missouri Department of Natural Resources
     Tank Division
  - City of Kansas City, MO Brownfields Office

#### **USTFields Pilot**

#### Implementing New Strategy

- Focus on Area-Wide approaches Feasibility Study, Urban Corridors
- Participate in long-term, community-based initiatives (Prospect, Troost)
- Leverage public infrastructure funding

### **USTField Feasibility Study**

- → Description: Collection and analysis of environmental, regulatory, economic, planning and community data to evaluate the feasibility of cleanup and re-use in coordination with local revitalization efforts.
- → Goal: To present information most useful for a decisionmaker considering USTField sites in a redevelopment plan.

#### ◆ Tasks:



- Perform Phase I assessment of Prospect Corridor sites
- Study redevelopment potential and identify potential resource leverage
- Rank USTField sites for resource allocation
- Propose synergies (site assembly, combined site work)

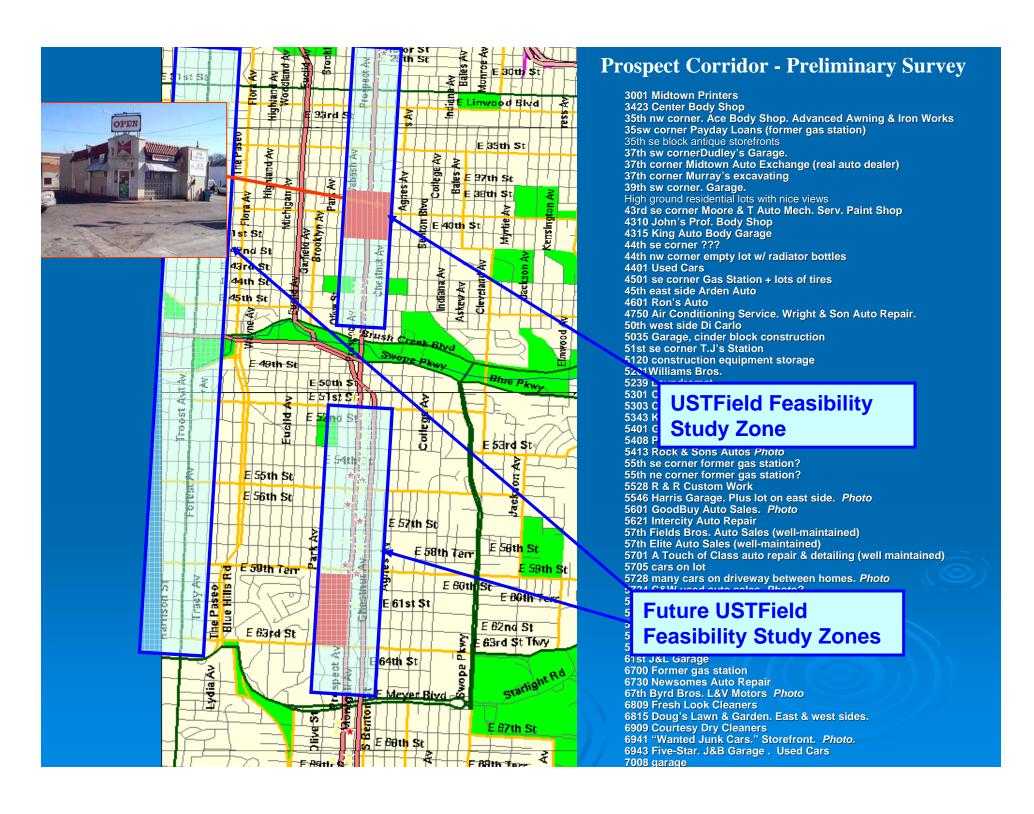
#### **Prospect Corridor**





## Prospect Corridor

- → Abundant UST & Other Petroleum Sites
  - Former gas stations
  - Garages (tire, transmission, general service, auto inspection, etc.)
  - Auto Sales/Salvage lots
- → Prospect Corridor Initiative
  - \$2 million initial investment at 39th & Prospect (ground zero)
    - Initial Project: gas station relocation and expansion into modern facility, mini-grocery, 2nd floor community services center
  - Urban Renewal Plan and Blight Study
  - Community Participation and Governance







## **Typical Prospect Corridor Distressed Property Sites**

- Former gas station (above)
- Dry cleaners (above right)
- Garage/Used Car Lot (right)



#### **Prospect Corridor Strategy**

- Participate in Community Revitalization Efforts
   Work closely with Neighborhoods to include and benefit Residents.
- Use Multi-Site Approaches
  - Area-wide investigation
  - Development Incentive Districts (TIFs, CIDs, NIDs)
  - Environmental insurance
- Seek Market-Driven Development Projects and Build Near Anchors
  - •Health Midwest, Brush Creek Partners
- Leverage Infrastructure Investments
   Prospect Bridge, Bruce R. Watkins, Town Fork Creek

## Feasibility Study Results

> 47 Former tank sites identified

24 Garages and other tank sites (tire, transmission, general service, auto inspection, etc.)

23 current and former service stations

- Geologic and hydrogeologic survey
- Database of site photos, records, interviews, site information

- Lack of density, less risk to receptors. Less likely complete exposure pathways.
- Simpler site presentation (less proximity to utility lines, fill materials).
- Ecological risks may have higher potential, but are still infrequent.

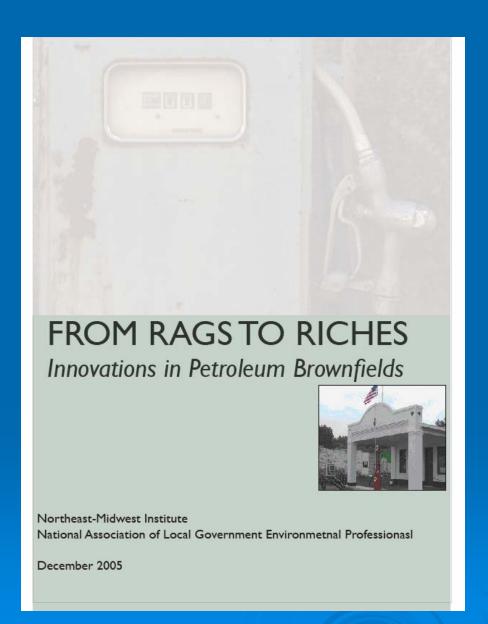
- Private well proximity is greater. Potential groundwater use and can drive some cleanup decisions.
- Public drinking water well-fields also at risk, more than in urban areas. (MTBE)
- Small towns don't usually have groundwater ordinances or requiring public water supply hook-up.

## Biggest UST Challenges:

- Expertise
- Capacity
- Resources

#### **Expertise:**

- > Peer Communities
  - Find towns that have cleaned up similar sites.
     Check PSTIF and DNR website lists.
- Local Gov't Organizations Resources
  - NALGEP
  - Northeast-Midwest Institute



Northeast Midwest Institute www.NEMW.org

## RECYCLING AMERICA'S GAS STATIONS

The Value and Promise of
Revitalizing Petroleum Contaminated Properties

#### A PRIMER FOR PETROLEUM BROWNFIELDS

WHAT CAN YOUR COMMUNITY DO TO REVITALIZE UST SITES?

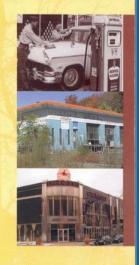
Northeast-Midwest Institute National Association of Local Government Environmental Professionals



INSIDE YOU'LL FIND:

A NEW LOOK AT OLD GAS STATIONS
KEYS TO SUCCESS FOR COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION OF
PETROLEUM BROWNFIELDS
SUCCESS STORY EXAMPLES

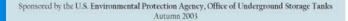
RESOURCES FOR FURTHER INFORMATION



Government Environmental Professionals

NALGEP
National Association of
Local Government
Environment Professionals

www.NALGEP.org



### Capacity:

- Local Fire Dept., Public Works, Water Services, all typically have some experience with USTs.
- > Hire professional firm to manage tank pull.
- Seek local business community participation and assistance.

#### Resources:

- > PSTIF
  - Pay close attention to eligibility
  - Get Letter of Cost approval before starting
- > EPA Brownfield Assistance
  - Grants available for assessment and cleanup of petroleum sites.
  - Small communities have had good results using grant writing services.
- Missouri Brownfield Assistance
  - If site will create jobs and not eligible for PSTIF
- Cost recovery
  - Difficult option to sue responsible parties but sometimes necessary.



#### **REMEDIATION TAX CREDITS:**

- State Tax Credit
- Credits issued for 100% of eligible remediation costs.
- Saleable and transferable.
- > 75% of credits issued upon cleanup. Remainder when certified complete.
- No pre-set program or per project limit
- Can be combined with state and federal historic preservation tax credits.



Currently price around \$0.87 cents per \$1.00 credit



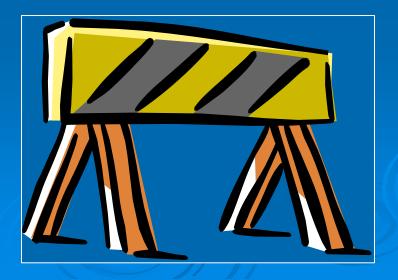
#### **ELIGIBILITY:**

- Enter Missouri Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) (i.e., not Times Beach)
- Abandoned or underutilized for at least three (3) years
  - Underutilized = no more than 35% use.
- Create at least ten (10) new, full-time permanent jobs
- ... or, retain at least twenty-five jobs (but difficult to show).



#### **LIMITATIONS:**

- Least amount necessary for project to work ("but for" test)
- Net State Economic Benefit
- \$1 million limit on grants, loans and loan guarantees
- No demolition or construction costs





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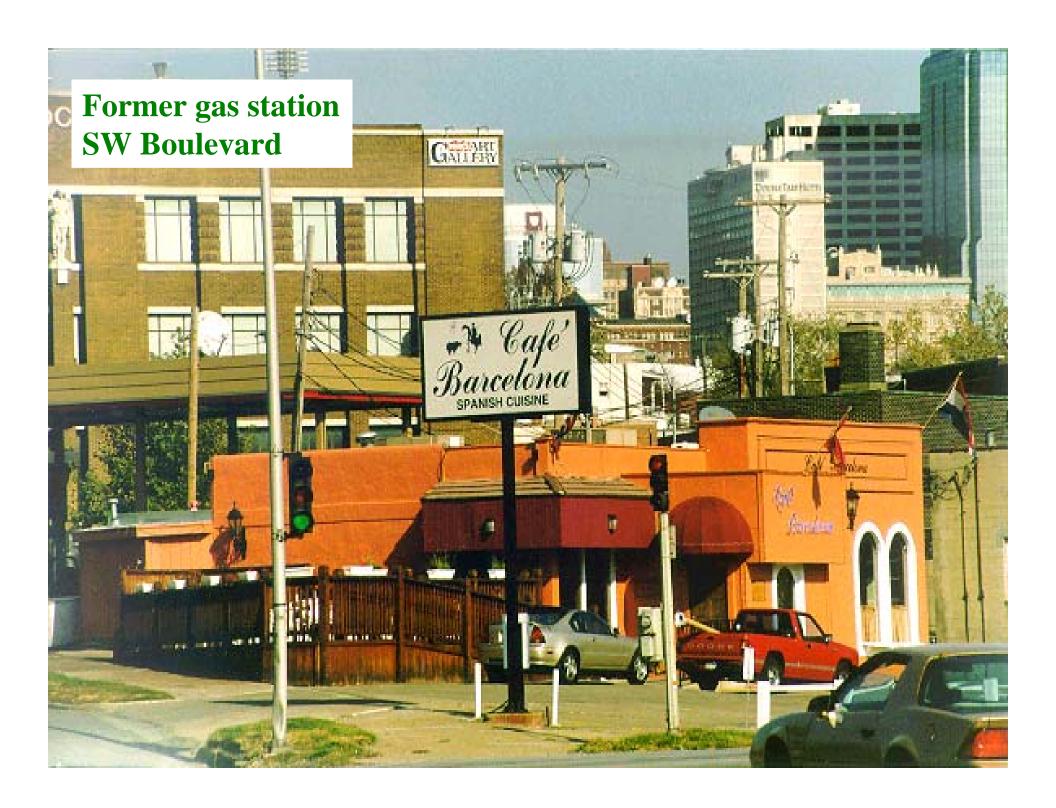
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## Development concepts

- > Cafes and restaurants
- > Small Businesses
- >Small parks





#### Service Station Conversions



Pizza 51

5060 Oak Street S & J DEVCO LLC about \$95,000 May to Sept. 2004

- Development of brownfield property
- Leverage of existing, high-visibility property
- Access to trails and public transit
- Enhanced neighborhood retail



Filling Station 29<sup>th</sup> & Gillham





Former Amoco Station Brookside Shopping Center 63<sup>rd</sup> & Brookside Blvd.

